

In the Applicants' invention, a time-domain signal is provided that corresponds to the measured received signal energy for each predetermined time interval. This predetermined time interval is set for the particular telecom-standard environment in which the telephone instrument is located. For example, a switch may be provided on the instrument for selecting the telecom protocol for the particular environment (Applicants' page 4, line 32 through page 5, line 3). The energy level at each predetermined time interval is determined, and the time-domain sequence of energy-level values at the predetermined time intervals provides a binary string that is used to determine the information content of the received signal (Applicants' page 5, lines 7-30).

Hoopes teaches a dynamic approach for compensating for potentially different environment. Hoopes measures the pulse width of each received pulse, and processes the received signal based on the measured duration of each pulse (Hoopes, column 6, lines 15-29). Throughout Hoopes' specification and claims, Hoopes refers to means for *discovering* a duration of the received ring signal, and specifically a means for identifying a beginning and end of each received pulse. As noted above, measuring a time duration of a received signal pulse is contradictory to measuring an energy level of a received signal for a predetermined time duration.

Hoopes refers to the fact that the received signal will have components of specified durations, but teaches a process wherein the durations of the received signal components are measured. Conversely, the Applicants also note that the received signal will have components of specified durations, but teach a process wherein the durations are assumed to be present in the received signal, and merely measures the energy within each of these predetermined durations.

Because Hoopes does not teach measuring the energy in a received signal for a predetermined time interval, as specifically claimed in each of the Applicants' independent claims, 1 and 10, upon which each of the other rejected claims depend, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hoopes.

The Examiner has rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoopes in view of Rosen et al. (USP 5,864,607, hereinafter Rosen). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection based on the comments above with regard to Hoopes.

In this rejection, the Examiner relies upon Hoopes for teaching the elements of claim 1, upon which claims 8 and 9 depend. However, as discussed above, Hoopes neither teaches nor suggests the measurement of signal energy during a predetermined time interval, and specifically teaches a contradictory process wherein the time duration of received pulses are "discovered".

Based on the remarks above, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection of claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoopes in view of Rosen.

Respectfully submitted,



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On 13 June 2002

By 

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Amended) A wire-bound telecommunication device comprising terminals for coupling the device to a subscriber line of a telecommunication network, a transmission circuit, and a signal energy detecting arrangement, [characterised] characterized in that the signal energy detecting arrangement comprises means for determining a time-domain signal representing the signal energy of a signal on the subscriber line in a predetermined time interval.